

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01137 292236Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 MMO-01 PER-01 ABF-01
/031 W

-----292238Z 126439 /61

R 291002Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAMA 1137

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : EAGR, APER, AODE

SUBJECT : AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE FOR THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

REF: STATE 119302

1. THIS EMBASSY WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT
HERE OF PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE. WE HAVE NEITHER THE
SPACE (OUR CHANCERY NOW COMPLETELY FULL) NOR THE STAFF TO
SUPPORT ANOTHER AMERICAN OFFICER AND HIS SECRETARY. WE
HAVE FOUND THE AID REGIONAL ATTACHE AND HIS SECRETARY, TO
WHOSE ASSIGNMENT WE RELUCTANTLY AGREED LAST AUGUST, TO BE
A MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN, WITH VERY LITTLE PAYOFF FOR
THIS EMBASSY OR, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, FOR OTHER AREA POSTS.

2. OUR JUDGEMENT ABOUT THE LIKELY COMMERCIAL EFFECT OF AN
AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE RESIDENT IN THE GULF REMAINS AS IT
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WAS WHEN WE WERE LAST QUERIED: GULF POPULATIONS ARE SMALL,
AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ARE POPULAR AND THERE IS A
GROWING MARKET. HOWEVER, THAT MARKET CAN EASILY BE SURVEYED
AND UNDERSTOOD IN TWO OR THREE ANNUAL TRIPS TO THE REGION
FROM WASHINGTON. THE KIND OF USDA-SPONSORED TRADE MISSION
WHICH EMBASSY KUWAIT AND WE ARE HOSTING NEXT WEEK IS AN
EXAMPLE OF THE KIND OF WORK THAT SHOULD BE DONE, POSSIBLY

TWICE A YEAR.

3. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO THE MODE SYSTEM, WE FAIL TO UNDERSTAND HOW SPENDING \$200 THOUSAND ANNUALLY FOR TWO MORE OFFICIAL AMERICANS (THIS IS THE FIGURE FOR THE AID REGIONAL ATTACHE AND HIS SECRETARY, OCT 1976 - SEPT 1977) COULD BE COST EFFECTIVE. IN FACT, THE COST IN MANAMA WOULD BE HIGHER SINCE IT WOULD REQUIRE RENTAL OF OFFICE SPACE AS NONE IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHANCERY. CURRENT OFFICE SPACE RUNS FROM \$17 - 30 PER SQUARE FOOT DEPENDING ON LOCATION. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF AN OFFICE SEPARATE FROM THE CHANCERY WOULD BE AN ADDED BURDEN.

4. TO SUM UP, WE DO NOT HAVE THE SPACE AND WE DO NOT SEE A NEED FOR ATTACHE RESIDENT IN THE GULF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
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